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FROM: LONDON

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 5973, MAY 13, 3 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 5973, REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 436, PARIS 99,
MOSCOW 276, BERLIN 161.

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REFERENCE: DEPTTEL 10007.

EMBASSY SEES ADVANTAGES IN MAKING STUDY AT THIS TIME OF
POSSIBLE ALLIED COUNTER HARASSMENTS IN RESPONSE SOVIET
OR EAST GERMAN MOVES AGAINST ALLIED ACCESS BERLIN.
 WHILE REFTEL DOES NOT INDICATE IN ANY DETAIL
 TYPES OF MEASURES WE HAVE IN MIND, APPEARS OBVIOUS THAT
 UK AND OTHER ALLIES WOULD WANT EXAMINE WITH GREAT CARE
 AND IN CRITICAL SPIRIT PROS AND CONS ANY SPECIFIC ACTION.
 IN VIEW MANIFEST UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING TYPES OF
 HARASSMENT SOVIETS MAY EMPLOY AND UNCERTAINTY REGARDING
 CLIMATE OF WORLD OPINION AT TIME OF SUCH ACTIONS APPEARS
DESIRABLE AS FIRST STEP CONFINE EXERCISE TO EFFORT
ESTABLISH WHAT WEAPONS WE HAVE IN OUR ARSENAL WHICH CAN
BE EMPLOYED AS COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST SOVIETS.
WOULD NOT THINK IT PROFITABLE AT THIS TIME TO SEEK TO
MATCH THESE COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST SPECIFIC SOVIET
ACTIONS. CERTAINLY STUDY OF THIS CHARACTER WOULD
 PRESENT FEWER DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING BRITISH AND
 ALLIED COOPERATION IN DETERMINING JUST WHAT ACTIONS BY
 WEST ARE FEASIBLE AND OF MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS.

WHITNEY

MAY 27 1959

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